

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 02117 110953Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 INSE-00
/041 W

-----068836 110959Z /13

O R 110910Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 249
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2117

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ABOARD SHIP "REGENSTEIN"

REF: SINGAPORE 2109

1. UNHCR REP CARPENTER PHONED DCM 2:30 PM LOCAL TIME MAY 11
TO SAY THAT HE HAD JUST BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SINGAPORE
AUTHORITIES. THEY HAD INFORMED HIM THAT GOS WAS UNABLE
TO AUTHORIZE LANDING REFUGEES FROM SHIP "REGENSTEIN" IN
SINGAPORE. IF CAPTAIN OF VESSEL INTENDED TO TAKE REFUGEES
BACK TO VIETNAM AFTER LEAVING SINGAPORE WATERS, THERE WAS
NOTHING THEY COULD DO ABOUT IT. ONLY HOPE FOR LANDING
REFUGEES IN SINGAPORE, CARPENTER, SAID, RESTED WITH FRENCH.
FRENCH EMBASSY HAD ASKED PARIS FOR AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND
GUARANTEES BUT NO REPLY HAD YET BEEN RECEIVED.
CARPENTER INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 02117 110953Z

AS TIME SET FOR DEPARTURE OF VESSEL DREW CLOSER.
DCM SUGGESTED THAT CARPENTER MAKE ONE MORE CHECK
WITH FRENCH, WHICH HE AGREED TO DO.

2. DCM CALLED CARPENTER APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF
HOUR LATER. CARPENTER REPORTED FRENCH EMBASSY STILL
HAD RECEIVED NO WORD FROM PARIS. WITH TIME

RUNNING OUT, DCM ACTING UNDER AMBASSADOR'S AUTHORIZATION, THEN TOLD CARPENTER U.S. WOULD PROVIDE GUARANTEES FOR THE 64 REFUGEES ABOARD SHIP "REGENSTEIN".

CARPENTER EXPRESSED RELIEF AND GRATITUDE AT THIS INFORMATION. SHIP'S AGENT HAS BEEN INFORMED OF FOREGOING AND LETTER OF GUARANTEE IS BEING DELIVERED.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE ARE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED AT FAILURE OF BRITISH, GERMANS, AND FRENCH TO PROVIDE GUARANTEES FOR THESE REFUGEES, AS WELL AS WITH GOS FOR UNWILLINGNESS TO BEND ITS RULES IN THIS CASE. FAILURE OF OTHERS TO ACT IS SAD COMMENTARY ON "INTERNATIONAL" NATURE OF OUR EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES. AMBASSADOR HAS ALREADY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR UNHAPPINESS TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AND WE INTEND TO DO SO WITH LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL.
HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, SHIPS, SEA RESCUES, SHIP MOVEMENTS, REGENSTEIN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP02117
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780199-1122
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780569/aaaacghp.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d2118ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 SINGAPORE 2109
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2719263
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ABOARD SHIP \"REGENSTEIN\"
TAGS: SREF, SN, VM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d2118ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014